

Executive Program "Leadership VA"; and test site development of the VA Compensation & Pension on-line computer system "TARGET."

Mr. Melidosian has received many awards, including the Presidential Rank Award of "Distinguished Executive." He has been continually active in the government and the community as a lecturer and chairman or member of numerous boards and commissions.

I extend my best wishes to Mr. Melidosian for his service to our Nation's veterans and for his continued health.●

#### JON BROSCIOUS: A WELL-EARNED RETIREMENT AFTER A CAREER OF LOOKING AFTER AMTRAK'S GREATEST ASSETS

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, after this week, someone very special will be missing from my morning commute from Wilmington. Jon Broschious, one of the Amtrak conductors who has been riding the trains with me for the past 25 years, is beginning a well-earned retirement. The mornings will not be the same without him.

Jon is one of those individuals—like so many of the conductors, baggage handlers, flagmen, and attendants I have known who have worked so hard to maintain Amtrak's excellent reputation as an efficient and user-friendly service—who takes a great deal of pride in his work, making the care and comfort of his passengers always his first priority. These are men and women who have long understood that Amtrak's greatest assets are neither its miles of track nor its extensive rolling stock, but the good will of the thousands of Americans who depend upon rail transportation to get to work, to visit their loved ones, and to expand their horizons. For many years, Jon Broschious has earned the good will of countless passengers, some of whom—like myself—see him every day, and others for whom his conscientious service is their one and only contact with America's rail system. He has treated each and every one—whether in club car or in coach—as a first-class passenger. His example is one which all of us would do well to follow.

During the twenty-five years that I have been sharing my mornings with Jon, we have learned a great deal about one another's lives and families. He has heard all about my children as they grew up, began to face the challenges of adulthood, embarked on their own careers, and gave me the joy of being a grandfather. And I shared Jon's pride as his son passed the bar and set up his practice in Virginia; anguished with him throughout his son's battle with cancer; and shared his joy when the disease was finally conquered. I'll never forget the time that Jon and his whole family, including his grandchildren, visited with me in my office here in Washington. Though it was my first meeting with many of them, I felt like I knew each one well because Jon had spoken of them so often.

Jon and his family have a great many plans for his well-deserved retirement. He has earned the comfort and happiness that he brought to so many others over the years. Along with his colleagues and the many others who ride the trains each morning, I wish him all the best.

But the mornings will never be the same. I'll miss you, Jon.●

#### TRIBUTE TO PAUL A. DRAZEK

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Paul Drazek, a distinguished public servant, who is retiring from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Paul has served as the Special Assistant for International Affairs to Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman for the past three and one-half years. Spending the past twenty-five years in international trade, both in government and the private sector, Paul has advanced agricultural trade policy and opened important and essential new markets to America's farmers and ranchers.

Paul Drazek came by his love for agriculture naturally, with both of his grandparents running farms in upstate New York. At an early age he chose to use his intellect and energies to help one of our most export dependant industries find and expand market opportunities. To prepare him for his life's mission, Paul furthered his knowledge in agriculture by receiving a degree in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Maryland.

Mr. Drazek began his career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service, serving fourteen years as a trade policy and marketing specialist. During that time he served four years as an agricultural negotiator for the U.S. delegation to the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations in Geneva, Switzerland, and as the Agricultural Attache in our Embassy in Mexico City, Mexico.

Prior to joining the Department of Agriculture as Special Assistant to the Secretary, Mr. Drazek served as Director of Government Relations for the American Farm Bureau Federation for ten years. He specialized in international affairs and legislative issues affecting U.S. agricultural trade. In that capacity, Mr. Drazek gained a familiarity with the political and economic sensitivities that shape farm and trade policies around the world. He also provided essential private sector input to the Uruguay Round of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Paul has spent the last three years at the U.S. Department of Agriculture representing American agricultural interests overseas opening and expanding new markets for our farmers and ranchers. Making progress in international trade policy is a formidable challenge in this dynamic global economy. Paul's unwavering dedication and commitment to bringing prosperity to

the world through trade and economic interdependence will pay dividends for our nation well into the future.

Mr. President, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute and say thank you to Paul Drazek, and I wish him, his wife Sue and their two sons, Keith and Greg, the best in all of their future endeavors.●

#### ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in recess until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 30; I further ask unanimous consent that the time for the two leaders be reserved.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOMENICI. I further ask unanimous consent that the Senate then proceed to a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes, with the following exceptions: The first 20 minutes under the control of Senator MURKOWSKI; 20 minutes under the control of Senator GRAMM of Texas; 25 minutes under the control of Senator ROBERTS; 30 minutes under the control of Senator MCCAIN; 30 minutes under the control of Senator HAGEL; 15 minutes under the control of Senator JOHNSON; 1 hour under the control of Senator DORGAN or his designee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. DOMENICI. For the information of all Senators, when the Senate reconvenes on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., there will be approximately 3½ hours for morning business. It is hoped that following the morning business period the Senate will be able to proceed to the DOD authorization conference report and/or the American Wetlands Conservation Act—hopefully, both items to be considered under time agreements. Members are reminded that no votes will occur during Wednesday's session of the Senate in observance of the Jewish holiday.

All votes ordered will be postponed to occur at approximately 10 a.m. on Thursday. All Senators will be notified when votes are scheduled to occur.

#### DESIGNATING A PORTION OF INTERSTATE 70 IN MISSOURI AS "MARK MCGWIRE INTERSTATE ROUTE 70"

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. 2531 introduced earlier today by Senator BOND.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.